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Global Bay

January 23, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

I would like to express some of views regarding the Microsoft antitrust case. I have always disagreed with this case, and frankly feel that Microsoft is just bearing the brunt of the blow from companies that cannot match the superiority of Microsoft's products. I might feel differently about Microsoft if it had achieved its success purely by malicious behavior, but it did not. Microsoft built a better mousetrap and priced it lower than the competitions'. I thought that was the goal of business.

The concessions called for in your settlement make antitrust precedent. Nevertheless, it is worth it to end this case sooner rather than later. Under your settlement, Microsoft has agreed to allow software engineers and computer makers to configure Windows in ways that promote non-Microsoft programs that compete with those programs already included within Windows. This sounds good for the average consumer, but is it fair to Microsoft? Imagine if McDonald's had to allow customers to order a Burger King Whopper at its restaurants if they wanted one, just because no one was going to Burger King. What if every Coke had to come with a sample of Pepsi inside, just because Coke has loyal drinkers? Would these situations be fair? Would we allow them?

As long as Microsoft is willing to give up some of its market share and competitive advantage, there will always be more hands reaching out. It seems that the American Dream has changed into something for nothing, and now is backed by law. We need to realize that sometimes product lines fail. Just because the companies worked hard, doesn't mean that they deserve success. Such is capitalism.

Sincerely,



Sandeep Bhanote
CEO

CC: Congressman Jerrold Nadler